



**Marine Wing Support Squadron 373
Marine Aircraft Group 11**

Sexual Assault Policy



I want to be very clear about sexual assault, its impact, our care of victims, and adjudication of the guilty. Sexual assault is any intentional sexual contact, through the use of force, threat, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not, or cannot consent. It is a heinous act that not only violates the individual, but also adversely impacts the entire command. Sexual assault and intentionally ignoring sexual assault will not be tolerated.

Victims of sexual assault should immediately contact the Squadron Uniformed Victim Advocates, healthcare provider, and the Sexual Assault Hotline as soon as possible. The process to care for sexual assault victims will be conducted in a timely, professional, and sensitive manner. Victim safety, privacy, and treatment are my primary concerns. Leaders will ensure the safety of all those who make a report and will also safeguard information for those who made a restricted report.

Sexual assault can occur anywhere at any time – vigilance through education and action at all levels is the number one measure in helping put an end to this inexcusable and horrible behavior. Starting with me, preventing sexual assault is the responsibility of every member of this command. There are no excuses.

I charge leaders at all levels to become familiar with the contents of Marine Corps Order 1752.5B, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program and to ensure its content is discussed with all personnel under your charge. I cannot overstate the importance of making this a routine discussion during opportunities of professional military education.

Sexual assault is perpetrated by the selfish, inconsiderate, and heartless with no conscience. We must recognize and condemn sexual assault for the crime that it is. Swift justice will be administered to those found guilty of such acts. I will ensure the guilty experience the full measure of justice.

Semper Fidelis

Bradley W. Ward

**Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
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